



CALVERT COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

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Board of Commissioners

Earl F. Hance
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Minutes October 17, 2019

Pam Williams called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the Calvert Pines Senior Center. The meeting began with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was held for Congressman Elijah Cummings who passed away.

Attendees: Pam Williams, Terry Long, Yolanda Hipski, Harriet Gossett, Len Winkler, Beverly Butler, Tanea Granlund, Sudha Haley, Bessie Hoskins, Susan Justice, Liz Youngblood

Non-Attendees: Frank Krohnert, Kathy Baron, Jeannette Findley, Elizabeth Foster, Margaret Phipps

Agenda/Minutes: The agenda/minutes were distributed. Motion to approve: Tanea, Second: Len. Minutes approved.

Chair and Vice Chair Remarks/Reports: Pam Williams

No report

Guest Speaker – Ashley Biggs, MD State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

- All materials and supplies are free of charge to blind/low vision clients and include: Reading Player with USB Drive which can be adjusted for hearing/tone/speed; Digital Books, Large Print Books, Braille Books, Sheet Music, Magazines
- Trying to make more connections with agencies and caregivers to get the word out
- Agency serves all of Maryland. Partners with Public Libraries
- Assistive technology training provided
- Must meet criteria – legally blind, short term memory effected, medically certified
- Approximately 110,000 books available
- Catalogs on-line
- Average age of recipients is 65+. No age limit for services

OOA Report: Susan Justice

- Karen Coles is the new Community First Choice Supports Planner at Calvert Pines Senior Center.
- OOA is working on the Long Term Care Manager position

Delegate and Committee Reports:

United Seniors of Maryland: Sudha Haley

- Sudha discussed wanting to meet with Secretary Kramer regarding funding cuts.
- Discussions regarding: leftover funding at the end of fiscal year would automatically be returned to the treasury; Make sure aging money is earmarked for programs; Has to be a strategy involved for fundings.
- Sudha is on the 2020 Census Committee. Need to spread the word for people, seniors, homeless to be counted.
- Census presentation will be held at the three senior centers. May be possible for seniors to get help filling out the Census paperwork at centers.

Community Awareness and Outreach: Bessie Hoskins/Tanea Granlund

- Alzheimer's Walk held 9/28. Team raised \$2,120. Pam raised \$500. Lower attendance this year. Need to promote more next year.
- Holiday parties at the apartments: 12/3 at CP II; 12/10 at NB; 12/11 at SP II; 12/12 at SP I.

Housing: Len Winkler/Harriet Gossett

- Housing meeting 10/18. Housing needs a group to identify senior population/special needs, planning & zoning and impacts (i.e. septic system issues). Dana Jones is the task force leader.

Transportation: Terry Long/Yolanda Hipski

- Wheels to Wellness – over 20,000 mi., 1,200 trips. Work with hospital case managers after patients released for rides available to doctor's appointments and follow-ups. Pilot program complete. New computer software required for setting up rides.
- Senior Rides Program – next meeting Monday November 18, 2 p.m. at Calvert Pines. Brainstorming ideas for coordinating rides. Lifestyles would fill the riding gap between Wheels to Wellness, Public Transportation and ministries transportations. Ministries have a good pool of volunteer drivers. Hope to have a rough draft by the end of December.

Senior Wellness: Tanea Granlund

- No meeting for SAGE scheduled as yet. CSM is not interesting in participating. Not too much activity on Facebook.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- Motion to add "Census 2020" to monthly agendas – Tanea; Second – Pam
- Census (Sudha) – Raising awareness to be counted is a key issue. Assisting with filling out census forms will be provided. Discussions regarding transporting seniors/disabled/vets to places to fill out forms. County loses \$1,800/person for each resident not counted. Presentations being done at senior centers. Sudha will be the spokesperson for Calvert County Census.

Member Concerns:

- Two members needed from District 1

Announcements:

- Beverly will be promoting FCCS at the following fairs: St. John Vianney – Nov. 9; Huntingtown High School – Nov. 2
- Nov. 23 Calvert High School – Festival of Wreaths
- The next COA meeting will be **Thursday, November 21, 9 a.m. at the ARC.**
There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Youngblood, Office Specialist II